

**2009**

## **103rd GRISWOLD REUNION**

**August 15, 2009, Merli-Sarnoski Park, Carbondale  
Basket Picnic begins at noon**

This year's Northeastern Pennsylvania Griswold Reunion will take place on Saturday, August 15th at Merli-Sarnoski Park (which is less than a mile from the Homestead Golf Course, where these Reunions have taken place in recent years).

Instead of a covered-dish luncheon, as in past years, we will have a basket picnic this year, beginning at noon. Each family/family group should bring its own complete picnic basket and we will all eat together.

Merli-Sarnoski Park is a beautiful county park, which is located at the top of a mountain. There's a very nice pavilion overlooking the water where the basket picnic and business meeting can take place. Easy access for all. There's a nice beach, with lifeguards on duty. Hiking trails everywhere. Rest rooms. Unlimited quantities of fresh air and sunshine. It's a perfect a spot to hold the reunion.

Here's how to get to Merli-Sarnoski Park: Directly across the highway (Route 106) from the Homestead Golf Course is a road leading to the entrance to Merli-Sarnoski Park. Take that road. In less than a half a mile, you will see on the left the large entrance sign to the park (you drive up a steep hill).

There are lots of picnic tables and benches, but you may want to bring along a folding chair .

Following the picnic, the annual business meeting will take place.

Contact number for Robert or Donald Powell: 570-282-0385 or [srp18407@yahoo.com](mailto:srp18407@yahoo.com) (If you telephone, it's best to call during the day. The telephone number is that of the local historical society, where Robert does a lot of volunteer work. There's an answering machine, so please leave a message if no one answers.)

**2010**

## **Change of Date for this Year's Griswold Reunion**

By S. Robert Powell

As most of us know, only too well, things sometimes get very complicated, and before you know it, you're scheduled to be in two different places at the same time.

Well, that's happened to me. The third Saturday in August (the traditional time for the Griswold Reunion) is over-booked for me and I can't host/organize the annual reunion on the third Saturday—but I can do so on the fourth Saturday, August 28.

So, with sincere apologies from me for this last-minute switch in dates, let's meet on the fourth Saturday of August, the 28th, at noon at Merli-Sarnoski Park.

Best regards (and with sincere apologies)

S. Robert Powell  
570-282-0385  
[srp18407@yahoo.com](mailto:srp18407@yahoo.com)

# Griswold Reunion 2010

## Merli-Sarnoski Park, August 28, 2010

Small group, 12 people: Clark Warner, Julie and Lauren Clancy, Marjorie Wildenberg, Amy Rude, John R. Rude, Pat Peltz, Mary Schermerhorn, Sarah Linko, Jill Linko, Greg Linko, S. Robert Powell

Reunions are, in many ways, about “homing” and “going home,” and so I decided to take 25 of my Homing Pigeons to the Reunion and to release them at the beginning of the event. Several people who were at the Park spotted the pigeons in the cages before the release and expressed interest in the birds. One of the young women (who married a Tackach, I believe she said, and who live on the Sandy Bank Road) said that her father raised Homing Pigeons. I got some of the young folks involved in holding for release some of the birds. They loved it. Pat Peltz took several pictures of the event and those photos are shown here, as is one photo of the group at the picnic tables by the lake. When released, the birds headed directly down over the hill to home (less than a mile away). The outing was good for the birds—and a great hit with all the Griswolds and the other spectators.

*✓ 20 announcements  
sent 8/9/2010*

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Merli-Sarnoski Park is a beautiful county park, which is located at the top of a mountain. There's a very nice pavilion overlooking the water where the basket picnic and business meeting can take place. Easy access for all. There's a nice beach, with lifeguards on duty. Hiking trails everywhere. Rest rooms. Unlimited quantities of fresh air and sunshine. It's a perfect a spot to hold the reunion.

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001-514553

| DATE          | WITHDRAWAL | DEPOSIT/INTEREST | BALANCE     |
|---------------|------------|------------------|-------------|
| 06-30-07      |            | 168.00           | 270.54 0003 |
| 1             |            |                  |             |
| 2             |            |                  |             |
| 3 08-31-07    | 2.00       |                  | 268.54      |
| 4 09-28-07    |            | .21 INT          | 268.75      |
| 5 12-31-07    |            | .24 INT          | 268.99      |
| 6 03-31-08    |            | .18 INT          | 269.17      |
| 7 07-08-08    |            | .11 INT          | 269.28      |
| 8 09-30-08    |            | .09 INT          | 269.37      |
| 9 12-31-08    |            | .10 INT          | 269.47      |
| 10 03-31-09   |            | .07 INT          | 269.54      |
| 11 06-30-09   |            | .07 INT          | 269.61      |
| 12 08-10-09   | 87.00      |                  | 356.61 0393 |
| 13 9/30/2009  |            | 0.08             | 356.69 4168 |
| 14 12/31/2009 |            | 0.09             | 356.78 4168 |
| 15 3/31/2010  |            | 0.09             | 356.87 4168 |
| 16 6/30/2010  |            | 0.09             | 356.96 4168 |
| 17 8/10/2010  | 50.00      |                  | 406.96 4168 |
| 18            |            |                  |             |
| 19            |            |                  |             |
| 20            |            |                  |             |
| 21            |            |                  |             |
| 22            |            |                  |             |
| 23            |            |                  |             |
| 24            |            |                  |             |

THIS BOOK IS YOUR RECEIPT  
PRESENT IT WITH EACH TRANSACTION

Griswold Reunion  
Donald W. Powell OR  
S. Robert Powell  
NAME

00000d8888xAC164 LC  
0001-514553  
ACCOUNT NUMBER

Savings Account

Certificate of Deposit



## Transaction Receipt

### DEPOSITS

- Checking
- Money Market
- Savings
- Flex CD

### PAYMENTS

- Installment Loan
- Home Equity
- Commercial Loan
- Misc. \_\_\_\_\_
- Chek-Gard
- Mortgage

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4134870407 -0098  
08/09/2010 (570)876-3321 10:46:07 AM

| Product Description            | Sale Qty | Unit Price | Final Price |
|--------------------------------|----------|------------|-------------|
| 44c Negro Leagues Baseball PSA | 20       | \$0.44     | \$8.80      |

Total: \$8.80

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Cash \$10.00  
Change Due: -\$1.20

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For other information call 1-800-ASK-USPS.

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Clerk: 08 6-11-11

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\*\*\*\*\*

Customer Copy

## ANNUAL DUES INVOICE

Membership dues are used to cover the costs of postage and printing the quarterly bulletin, to defray the expenses of genealogical research, and in support of our GFA website, which can be found at: [www.griswoldfamily.org](http://www.griswoldfamily.org)

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Single Membership                                  | \$25.00   |
| Family (husband, wife and children under 18 years) | \$35.00   |
| Patron   | \$50.00   |
| Donor  | \$100.00  |
| Benefactor   | \$1000.00 |
| Life membership (single payment)                   | \$500.00  |

✓  
S.R.P  
reimbursed  
6-11-11

Name(s) and Membership ID number (found next to your name on the mailing label):

N.E PA GRISWOLD REUNION [294]

Street Address: 10 S. Robert Powell R.R. 1, Box 40

City, State, Zip: CARBONDALE, PA 18407-9706

Type of membership: SINGLE MEMBERSHIP

Amount of payment: \$25.00 (Please make check out to: Griswold Family Association)

E-mail address: SRRP18407@Yahoo. com

Please complete this form and mail with your check to:

Jack Hooten  
3822 Bandy Rd., SE,  
Roanoke, VA 24014-7216  
Ph. 540-427-1271  
E-mail: [jackhooten@juno.com](mailto:jackhooten@juno.com)

If you prefer to pay online using a credit card or bank card, go to our website at: [www.griswoldfamily.org](http://www.griswoldfamily.org) and click on the PayPal button

*Life Members and those who joined in the last 3 months of 2010 do not need to pay dues at this time: members will be dropped after two full consecutive years of non-payment of dues.*

*This form can also be used for new Memberships: just note "New Member" next to your name*

Dear Family and Friends,

Christmas 2009

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! 2009 has been a busy and challenging year for us. I have had two goals over the past year. The first was to finish the supporting documentation for my application to the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), which is an organization dedicated to the preservation of American history, and whose membership is comprised of women who have great-grandfathers who served in the American Revolutionary War. My great great grandfather (7 generations), John Griswold, served as a private in the Massachusetts Militia during the American Revolutionary War, and I am one of his direct descendants. Can I prove this? Yes, I can! Better yet, yes I did!!! I had to provide a copy of my birth certificate, and my parents' birth certificates, and then either birth, marriage and death certificates or their substitutes for all the earlier generations. Farther back than 1900, this usually consists of obituaries, local histories, tombstones, church records, census records, and for the patriot ancestor, pension records. It has been very gratifying for me to accomplish this goal, and I am deeply indebted to both my cousin Pat Peltz and to Robin Crosby, the secretary of the local DAR chapter, who has been a true friend, helping me to dot all my i's and cross all my t's to fulfill every specific requirement of proper documentation. I am proud to have a great grandfather who fought for democracy, and I am also very proud of my German and my Irish roots.

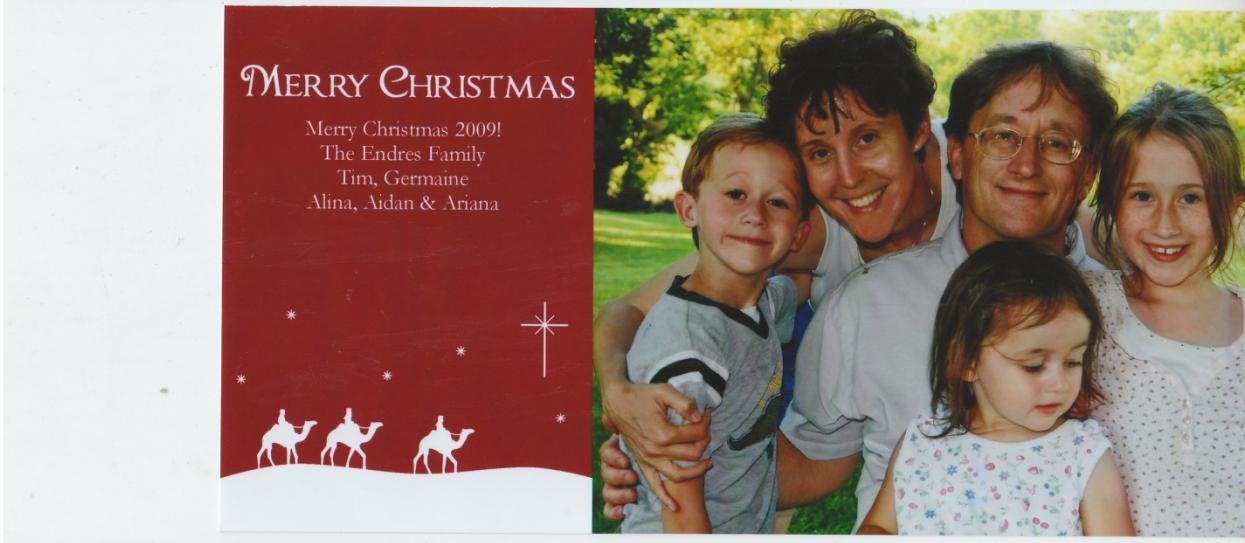
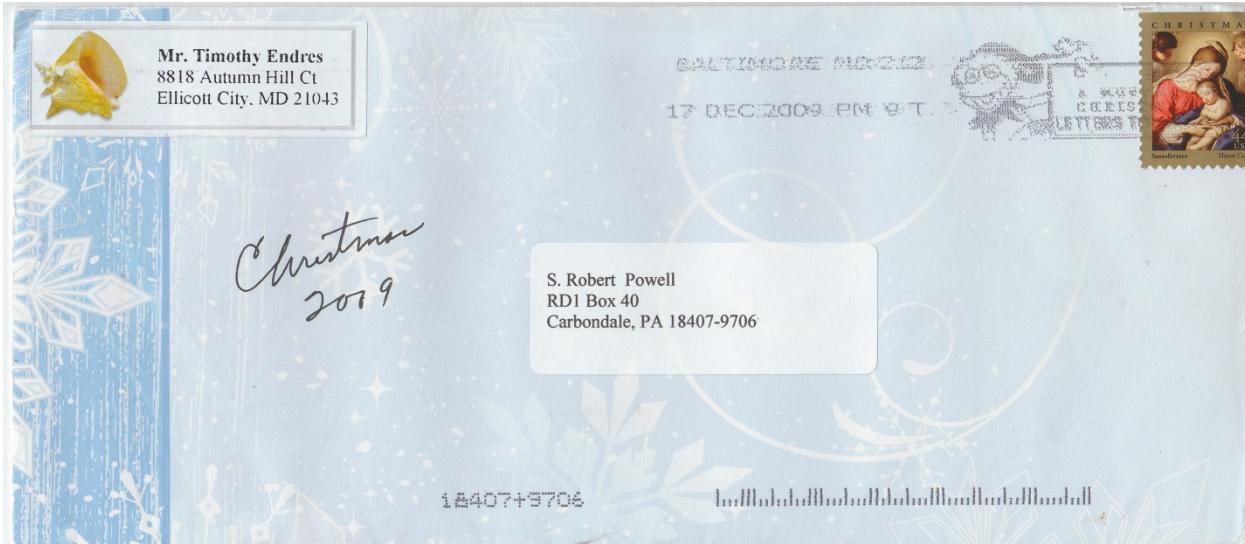
My second goal was to raise money and to raise awareness about the global water crisis. Right now, out of the 6 billion people on Planet Earth, 1.1 billion people lack access to clean drinking water, and as a result, 2 million people die every year. We all have the choice of whether to conform ourselves to that reality, or to fight against it. And I choose to fight against it. And I want to thank all of you, my family and friends, who have helped me in this fight. I couldn't do it without you! I did 2 fundraisers this year for the Blue Planet Run Foundation (an organization that digs wells and builds rain water collection projects throughout the developing world). The first fundraiser was a coin collection at my children's school in March (and many of you made donations then), and the second fundraiser was a Pampered Chef party that I had at my house in November. Instead of me getting free product for being the hostess, I get 15% of the total sales donated to the charity of my choice, which was of course Blue Planet Run, and I was able to send them a check of \$205. In addition, several friends donated a total of almost \$200. So again, let me say thank you to each of you who very kindly donated money to this very worthy cause. Thank you so very much!!!!

So what else happened in 2009? Well, we went on vacation to Jamestown, Virginia, the site of the first permanent English colony in the United States, to learn American history. We learned everything from how the English fired their canons and built their houses to how the Powhatan Indians built houses, farmed, and lived in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. We also toured Yorktown, the site of the last battle of the American Revolutionary War.

Some big milestones. Alina was a "millenium baby" (Feb. 2000), so I've been a mother for a decade now! For the past decade, I have always had either a baby or a toddler. Now my toddler is becoming a pre-schooler! Ariana got her first haircut in May, and started pre-school in September – she goes to A Mother's Day Out of Westchester one day a week. Ariana just turned 3 in October. Both Alina and Aidan did an intensive swim camp this summer (along with their cousin Madison), and have continued to swim like fish in their swim lessons (now over for the winter). Aidan played baseball in the spring, and started 1<sup>st</sup> grade in September. He joined the cub scouts and he played soccer this fall. Alina continues to play the violin, and started private violin lessons. Alina continues to dance (ballet and tap) and is now in her fourth year of girl scouts. She went camping with her girl scout troop in October. Aidan was supposed to go camping with the cub scouts, but it got rained out that weekend. So we did a little indoor camping – we pitched the tent (& sleeping bags) in our living room and roasted marshmallows over candlesticks!

Tim continues to enjoy reading his books, and I read my books for book club each month. And in addition to reading books, I've started *making* them, digital photo albums, that is. It's much easier and quicker than traditional scrapbooking and it's been lots of fun.

Happy Holidays! Love, GERMAINE, TIM, ALINA, AIDAN & ARIANA



# Doris E. Howell-Crossman

July 8, 2010

Doris E. Howell-Crossman, 86, a lifelong resident of Waymart, died Thursday evening at Wayne Memorial Hospital, Honesdale. She is survived by her husband, George W. Crossman of Waymart. Her first husband, Thomas Howell, preceded her in death.

Born April 12, 1924, in Waymart, she was the daughter of the late Homer B. and Myrtle Weildenstein Curtis. She was a 1941 graduate of Pleasant Mount schools and a member of the Clinton Center Baptist Church, Waymart, where she was active with Bible studies. She retired after 35 years from the Waymart Knitware Factory. She helped raise several of her nieces and nephews and was a member of the Senior Citizens Group in Waymart. She was an avid baker, reader and loved gardening.

She is also survived by a sister, Joyce Vanambury, Watkins Glen, N.Y.; a brother, Robert Curtis, Waymart; several nieces and nephews; several great-nieces and nephews; two stepsons, Ezra



Crossman, Johnson City, N.Y., and Ellis Crossman, West Virginia.

She also was preceded in death by a brother, Erwin Curtis.

The funeral will be held Tuesday at 10 a.m. in the Clinton Center Baptist Church, Waymart, with services by the Rev. Earl Cottrell, pastor. Interment, Clinton Center Baptist Cemetery, Waymart.

Friends may call Monday from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Carmine J. & Louis C. Parise Funeral Home & Cremation Services Inc., Farview and 41st Streets, Carbondale.

For directions, to send online condolences to the family or to view her online memorial scrapbook, visit [www.parisefuneralhome.com](http://www.parisefuneralhome.com).

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free.  
I'm following the path God laid for me,  
I took his hand when I heard him call  
I turned my back and left it all.*

*I could not stay another day to laugh,  
to love, to work or play.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way.  
I found that place at the close of day.  
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief.  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your heart and share with me.  
God wanted me now, he set me free.*

Funeral Services Provided By  
Parise Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Inc.  
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[www.parisefuneralhome.com](http://www.parisefuneralhome.com)

*Doris faithfully  
attended the Greenwood  
Reunion every year.  
She was a*



*In Loving Memory of*

**Doris E. Howell-Crossman**

Date of Birth  
April 12, 1924

Date of Death  
July 8, 2010

Services at

Clinton Center Baptist Church

Tuesday, July 13, 2010  
@ 10:00 AM

Officiating  
Rev. Earl Cottrell

Interment

Clinton Center Baptist Cemetery  
Waymart, PA

*very nice  
person.*

08-28-10 - 1 104th Griswold Reunion  
Merri-Sarnaski Park. Noon. How many  
Griswolds will appear? Hard to say.  
In recent years, the group has  
been getting <sup>progressively</sup> smaller. Unless we  
get an infusion of new blood,  
I don't think the Reunion will  
continue for too many years.  
Since "homing" is a basic  
concept associated with <sup>family</sup> reunions,  
I have brought along about 25  
of my Homing Pigeons. When  
the group is assembled, I  
will release them -- to fly out  
over "Mud Pond", as we  
always called this body of  
water. As always there are  
hundreds of those lovely  
white water lilies on the swampy

08-28-10-2

Part of the pond. A lot has changed here over the past 50 years, but a lot has not changed. It's still very beautiful, peaceful, pristine, and primeval. Many thousands of years ago this pond and park area were probably very much like they are today -- which is wonderful. Our property abuts the land of this county park -- which is a tremendous feature as far as our real estate value is concerned. The 50-acre pasture & wood for my cows is just down the hill from here. We used to walk up

08-28-10-3

here as kids & go swimming. When we emerged from the pond, we always had to pick the leeches off of each other's backs & bodies. The leeches are still here I suppose. Amazingly (in some respects) we didn't find it unusual or strange that we had to pick off the leeches when we emerged from the pond. Dad used to go fishing here for bullheads and, in the winter, ice fishing for pickerel. The Homing pigeons are anxious to fly. I will release ↗ them as soon as possible









*- 20 announcements  
sent 8/9/2010*

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**2011**

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Carbondale**

**Basket Picnic begins at noon**

This year's Northeastern Pennsylvania Griswold Reunion will take place on Saturday, August 27th at Merli-Sarnoski Park, Route 106, three miles west of Carbondale.

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# **GRISWOLD REUNION**

## **2011 Information Sheet**

**Mail this Information Sheet to the Corresponding Secretary/Historian of the Griswold Reunion (S. Robert Powell, R. D. 1, Box 40, Carbondale, PA 18407-9706) or bring it with you to the Reunion on August 27, 2011, at Merli-Sarnoski Park, R. D. 1, Carbondale, PA.**

**1. The following births, deaths, and marriages took place in my family during 2010-11:**

**2. The following graduations, promotions, and significant achievements took place in my family during 2010-11, and I would like them to be recorded in the official minutes of the Griswold Reunion:**

**3. Please make the following additions and/or corrections to the mailing list of the Griswold Reunion:**

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## **105<sup>th</sup> Northeastern Pennsylvania Griswold Reunion Report**

**By S. Robert Powell**

The descendants of John Griswold (375A) and his wife Elizabeth Crittenden have been holding annual reunions since March 22, 1906. On August 27, 2011, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Griswolds gathered for their 105<sup>th</sup> reunion, at Merlin-Sarnoski Park, near Carbondale, PA.

In the Park, on the top of a mountain, is a pristine lake, on the shores of which these recent annual reunions of Griswolds have taken place. Sometimes the reunion takes place in one of the picnic pavilions, sometimes it takes place, as it did this year, around a cluster of picnic tables at the edge of the lake.

The number of people who attend each year has been declining in recent years: 23 in 2008, 20 in 2009, 12 in 2010, and 7 in 2011. Gone are the days when over a hundred people attended these reunions. It's hard to know exactly why numbers are down, but it surely must be a consequence of the fact that most of the senior members of the family who regularly attended these reunions have passed on or are unable to attend.

The senior members are, it seems, the cohesive force that holds such family gatherings together. At the same time, they are also expert recruiters who gather together all the children and grandchildren and cousins for the annual reunion.

Even though the attendance numbers are down, enthusiasm levels among those in attendance are as high as ever. At this year's gathering, Robert Lewis French and his extraordinary life and accomplishments were one of the primary topics of conversation. Like Robert French, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Griswolds descend from Michael Griswold.

We were thrilled to read in *Cousin Sue's Corner* (June 2011 *Griswold Family Bulletin*) the following sentence: "In the end, Bob's [Robert L. French] suggestion that Michael might have been a younger son of this religious zealot [Edward], never mentioned by name in the histories, who had fled to the New World with the Rev. Charles Chauncy (vicar of St. Lawrence, where Edward's father-in-law lived) and settled in Wethersfield, CT is now supported by DNA evidence that Edward and Michael are definitely related (Bob's theory makes them 5<sup>th</sup> cousins once removed)."

Robert French's intuition, now supported by DNA evidence! What a triumph! With that revelation on the table, the group at this year's gathering then examined, with renewed enthusiasm, Coralee Griswold's monumental *The Griswold Family The Sixth & Seventh Generations Michael Volume II*.

Some northeastern Pennsylvania Griswolds on seeing with their own eyes that we, the northeastern Pennsylvania Griswolds, are an integral part of "such an impressive book as Coralee Griswold's history" could hardly believe their eyes when they saw therein the names of their grandparents and great grandparents. What a special moment!

An area of special interest to several Griswolds in Northeastern Pennsylvania these days are the military records of family members. The John Griswold (375A) from whom all northeastern Pennsylvania Griswolds descend was a Revolutionary War soldier.

The fifth child, John Griswold (1705), of the fifth son, Horace Griswold (842), of John Griswold (375A) and Elizabeth Crittenden, served in the Civil War. This was learned, in 2009, by Greg and Jill (Schermerhorn) Linko during a visit to the Gettysburg battlefield. The Linkos' nine-year old daughter, Sarah, has asked the blessing before the Griswold luncheons for several years.

The 106<sup>th</sup> Northeastern Pennsylvania Griswold Reunion will take place on August 18, 2012 at Merli-Sarnoski Park, Carbondale, PA. Contact S. Robert Powell at [srp18407@yahoo.com](mailto:srp18407@yahoo.com)

\* \* \* \* \*